

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 2-4 and 6-7.

Please amend the following claims.

1. (Twice Amended) A contacts block mechanism of an IC contact card reader having a contacts block that contacts an input/output terminal on a card surface of an IC contact card for signal transmissions, comprising:

contacts placed in said contacts block for making contact with said input/output terminal; contacts attach/detach means for moving said contacts block into contact with or away from said input/output terminal; and

an IC card control circuit board mounted to said contacts block, to which one end of said contacts is electrically connected for signal transmissions with said IC card;

wherein said switch and said moving member are moved in parallel to the running direction of said IC card so that friction at a contact portion between a card front end and the switch is eliminated.

5. (Twice Amended) A contacts block mechanism of an IC contact card reader having a contacts block that contacts an input/output terminal on a card surface of an IC contact card for signal transmissions, comprising:

contacts placed in said contacts block for making contact with said input/output terminal; contacts attach/detach means for moving said contacts block into contact with or away from said input/output terminal; and

an IC card control circuit board mounted to said contacts block, to which one end of said contacts is electrically connected for signal transmissions with said IC card;

a frame, to which said members of said contacts block mechanism are fixed, and which, in turn, is attached to a predetermined position in said IC contact card reader.